

Service Date: June 3, 2003

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER OF NORTHWESTERN)	UTILITY DIVISION
ENERGY, Annual Application to Implement)		
Its Unreflected Gas Cost, Gas Cost Tracking and)		DOCKET NO. D2003.6.66
Gas Transportation Adjustment Clause Procedures)		ORDER NO. 6491

INTERIM PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008 the Public Service Commission (PSC) issues this interim protective order applicable to information submitted in the above NorthWestern Energy (NWE) matter. The purpose of this action is to expedite complete and immediate access to NWE confidential information, if any, necessary to the PSC and intervenors in the matter. Within 10 days of providing confidential information to the PSC or intervenors under this interim protective order NWE must file a motion for permanent protective order pertaining to that information. The PSC hereby orders that information submitted in accordance with this Order be treated as "confidential information" under the terms of this Order and PSC protective order rules, ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030.

Done and dated this 29th day of May, 2003, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: There is no reconsideration of the granting of a protective order. There is a procedure to challenge the provider's claim of confidentiality. See ARM 38.2.5008. Reconsideration of a denial of a protective order is available in accordance with ARM 38.2.4806.

Montana Public Service Commission
Protective Orders and Protection of Confidential Information

Nondisclosure Agreement

(7-26-00)

ARM 38.2.5012

Docket No. D2003.6.66, Order No. 6491
Order Action Date: May 29, 2003

I understand that in my capacity as counsel or expert witness for a party to this proceeding before the commission, or as a person otherwise lawfully so entitled, I may be called upon to access, review, and analyze information which is protected as confidential information. I have reviewed ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030 (commission rules applicable to protection of confidential information) and protective orders governing the protected information that I am entitled to receive. I fully understand, and agree to comply with and be bound by, the terms and conditions thereof. I will neither use nor disclose confidential information except for lawful purposes in accordance with the governing protective order and ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030 so long as such information remains protected.

I understand that this nondisclosure agreement may be copied and distributed to any person having an interest in it and that it may be retained at the offices of the provider, commission, consumer counsel, any party and may be further and freely distributed.

Typed or Printed Name

Signature

Date of Signature

Business Address:

Employer

Party Represented